



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

auDA Strategy Consultation
PO Box 18315
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Via email

24 August 2021

Submission to auDA's consultation on its 2021-2025 proposed Strategy

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the Department) submits the following comments in relation to the .au Domain Administration's (auDA's) proposed Strategy for 2021-2025.


The Department welcomes auDA's ongoing efforts to implement best practice governance by engaging in regular strategic planning. Setting out goals and priorities for the coming four years will allow auDA to clearly define its aspirations and the means to achieve them.

The Department notes that auDA's operations must conform to the principles and conditions contained in the Australian Government's Terms of Endorsement (ToE), and is pleased that the proposed Strategy appears to fulfil this requirement.

A review of the ToE is currently being conducted by the Department, with a public consultation process open for submissions until 10 September 2021. If and when a new ToE is published, we would expect auDA to adjust its Strategy appropriately.

Referring to page 6 of the Proposed Strategy, and the section on achieving a trusted .au, we would suggest that there may be scope to expand the point auDA is making about focussing on technical solutions to DNS abuse to more specifically include online safety. The Department has been working with auDA and other agencies (such as the Australian Communications and Media Authority and the eSafety Commissioner) to address domain management issues through an eSafety lens, and it would strengthen the theme of trust if auDA were to make a clearer statement on this issue.

As policy-making is primarily a Government responsibility, the dot-point on page 6 about auDA 'driving' local and international policy discussions should be moderated or made to be more specifically about technical issues.



The Government continues to support the principle of auDA's independence, and its focus on maintaining a free, open, secure and global internet.

The Department consents to the publication of this submission.



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